Senate Amendment to House File 2411

H - 8393

- 1 Amend House File 2411, as passed by the House, as follows:
- 2 1. Page 1, after line 18 by inserting:
- 3 <Sec. . Section 85.27, subsection 5, Code 2022, is
- 4 amended to read as follows:
- a. When an artificial member or orthopedic appliance,
- 6 whether or not previously furnished by the employer, is damaged
- 7 or made unusable by circumstances arising out of and in the
- 8 course of employment other than through ordinary wear and tear,
- 9 the employer shall repair or replace it. When any crutch,
- 10 artificial member or appliance, whether or not previously
- 11 furnished by the employer, either is damaged or made unusable
- 12 in conjunction with a personal injury entitling the employee to
- 13 disability benefits or services as provided by this section,
- 14 or is damaged in connection with employee actions taken which
- 15 avoid such personal injury, the employer shall repair or
- 16 replace it.
- 17 b. Subject to paragraph "a" but notwithstanding any other
- 18 provision of this section, an employer shall not be required
- 19 to provide for the repair or replacement of an employee's
- 20 permanent prosthetic device if the employee has an account
- 21 credited to the employee pursuant to section 85.65, subsection
- 22 2, in relation to that permanent prosthetic device.
- Sec. . Section 85.35, Code 2022, is amended by adding the
- 24 following new subsection:
- 25 NEW SUBSECTION. 7A. a. If an injury relating to a claim
- 26 results in the injured worker needing a medically necessary
- 27 permanent prosthetic device or an alteration of an existing
- 28 medically necessary permanent prosthetic device, a settlement
- 29 pursuant to this section must describe the medically necessary
- 30 permanent prosthetic device and identify which portion of
- 31 the settlement proceeds are for the purpose of covering the
- 32 estimated cost of future repair or replacement of the device.
- 33 b. Upon the approval of a settlement by the workers'
- 34 compensation commissioner, moneys identified for the purpose

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35 of covering the cost of future repair or replacement of a

- 1 permanent prosthetic device shall be paid to the treasurer
- 2 of state as the custodian of the second injury fund for
- 3 administration pursuant to section 85.65, subsection 2, section
- 4 85.66, and section 85.67A.
- 5 c. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter,
- 6 moneys identified for the purpose of covering the estimated
- 7 cost of future repair or replacement of a permanent prosthetic
- 8 device shall not be used to calculate an injured worker's
- 9 compensation schedule.
- 10 Sec. . Section 85.45, Code 2022, is amended by adding the
- 11 following new subsection:
- 12 NEW SUBSECTION. 4. When commuting future payments pursuant
- 13 to this section, if the claim for workers' compensation
- 14 benefits was related to an injury that resulted in the injured
- 15 worker needing a medically necessary permanent prosthetic
- 16 device or an alteration of an existing medically necessary
- 17 permanent prosthetic device, a portion of the lump sum payment
- 18 must be designated for the purpose of covering the estimated
- 19 cost of repair or replacement of the permanent prosthetic
- 20 device. Moneys identified pursuant to this subsection shall
- 21 be paid to the treasurer of state as custodian of the second
- 22 injury fund for administration pursuant to section 85.65,
- 23 subsection 2, section 85.66, and section 85.67A.
- 24 Sec. . Section 85.48, Code 2022, is amended to read as
- 25 follows:
- 26 85.48 Partial commutation.
- 27 l. When partial commutation is ordered, the workers'
- 28 compensation commissioner shall fix the lump sum to be paid
- 29 at an amount which will equal the future payments for the
- 30 period commuted, capitalized at their present value upon the
- 31 basis of interest at the rate provided in section 535.3 for
- 32 court judgments and decrees. Provisions shall be made for the
- 33 payment of weekly compensation not included in the commutation
- 34 with all remaining payments to be paid over the same period
- 35 of time as though the commutation had not been made by either

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- 1 eliminating weekly payments from the first or last part of the
- 2 payment period or by a pro rata reduction in the weekly benefit
- 3 amount over the entire payment period.
- 4 2. When commuting future payments pursuant to this
- 5 section, if the claim for workers' compensation benefits was
- 6 related to an injury that resulted in the injured worker
- 7 needing a medically necessary permanent prosthetic device or
- 8 an alteration of an existing medically necessary permanent
- 9 prosthetic device, a portion of the lump sum payment must be
- 10 designated for the purposes of covering the estimated cost
- 11 of repair or replacement of the permanent prosthetic device.
- 12 Moneys identified pursuant to this subsection shall be paid to
- 13 the treasurer of state as custodian of the second injury fund
- 14 for administration pursuant to section 85.65, subsection 2,
- 15 section 85.66, and section 85.67A.
- 16 Sec. . Section 85.61, Code 2022, is amended by adding the
- 17 following new subsection:
- 18 NEW SUBSECTION. 01. "Alteration" means a material change
- 19 to a permanent prosthetic device that is necessary due to an
- 20 employee's injury, without which would not allow the injured
- 21 employee use of the prosthetic device as effectively as prior
- 22 to the injury.
- 23 Sec. . Section 85.65, Code 2022, is amended to read as
- 24 follows:
- 25 85.65 Payments to second injury fund.
- 1. The employer, or, if insured, the insurance carrier in
- 27 each case of compensable injury causing death, shall pay to
- 28 the treasurer of state for the second injury fund the sum of
- 29 twelve thousand dollars in a case where there are dependents
- 30 and forty-five thousand dollars in a case where there are no
- 31 dependents. The payment shall be made at the time compensation
- 32 payments are begun, or at the time the burial expenses are
- 33 paid in a case where there are no dependents. However, the
- 34 payments shall be required only in cases of injury resulting in
- 35 death coming within the purview of this chapter and occurring

- 1 after July 1, 1978. These payments shall be in addition to
- 2 any payments of compensation to injured employees or their
- 3 dependents, or of burial expenses as provided in this chapter.
- 4 2. a. The employer, or, if insured, the insurance carrier
- 5 shall pay to the treasurer of state for the second injury
- 6 fund the sum of moneys designated for the purpose of covering
- 7 the estimated cost of repair or replacement of a permanent
- 8 prosthetic device for an injured worker pursuant to section
- 9 85.35, 85.45, or 85.48.
- 10 b. (1) Upon receipt of moneys pursuant to paragraph "a",
- 11 the treasurer of state shall credit the employee for the full
- 12 amount received.
- 13 (2) Moneys received by the treasurer of state pursuant to
- 14 this paragraph for a permanent prosthetic device that was not
- 15 medically necessary prior to an injury shall be credited to
- 16 the injured worker in a new account relating to that permanent
- 17 prosthetic device.
- 18 (3) Moneys received by the treasurer of state pursuant to
- 19 this paragraph for an existing permanent prosthetic device that
- 20 requires alteration due to an injury shall be credited to the
- 21 employee's account relating to that prosthetic device if one
- 22 exists, or credited to a new account if one is not in existence
- 23 for that prosthetic device.
- 24 c. Moneys credited to an employee pursuant to this
- 25 subsection may only be used for the purposes designated in
- 26 section 85.67A and only in relation to the permanent prosthetic
- 27 device for which the account was created.
- 28 Sec. . Section 85.66, subsection 2, Code 2022, is amended
- 29 to read as follows:
- 30 2. The treasurer of state is charged with the conservation
- 31 of the assets of the second injury fund. Moneys collected in
- 32 the second injury fund shall be disbursed only for the purposes
- 33 stated in this subchapter, and shall not at any time be
- 34 appropriated or diverted to any other use or purpose. Except
- 35 for reimbursements to the attorney general provided for in

- 1 section 85.67, disbursements Disbursements from the fund shall
- 2 only be paid by the treasurer of state only for reimbursements
- 3 pursuant to section 85.67, for payments pursuant to section
- 4 85.67A, or upon the written order of the workers' compensation
- 5 commissioner. The treasurer of state shall invest any surplus
- 6 moneys of the fund in securities which constitute legal
- 7 investments for state funds under the laws of this state, and
- 8 may sell any of the securities in which the fund is invested,
- 9 if necessary, for the proper administration or in the best
- 10 interests of the fund.
- 11 Sec. ___. NEW SECTION. 85.67A Administration of fund —
- 12 permanent prosthetic devices.
- 13 l. For the purposes of this section:
- 14 a. "Prosthetic device" or "device" means a permanent
- 15 prosthetic device for which an account has been established
- 16 pursuant to section 85.65, subsection 2.
- 17 b. "Prosthetics supplier" means a person or business who
- 18 makes or repairs permanent prosthetic devices.
- 19 c. "Voucher" means a written statement that identifies all
- 20 of the following:
- 21 (1) The prosthetic device requiring repair or replacement.
- 22 (2) Whether the device appears to require repair or
- 23 replacement and the reason the device requires repair or
- 24 replacement.
- 25 (3) The exact amount, including taxes, necessary to pay for
- 26 the repair or replacement of the device.
- 27 2. The treasurer of state shall pay moneys from an account
- 28 established pursuant to section 85.65, subsection 2, to
- 29 a prosthetics supplier for the replacement or repair of a
- 30 prosthetic device upon the receipt of a voucher.
- 31 3. a. If an employee dies prior to receiving all moneys
- 32 credited to the employee pursuant to section 85.65, subsection
- 33 2, the treasurer of state shall pay the remaining moneys to the
- 34 employer which originally contributed such moneys.
- 35 b. If an employer cannot be paid pursuant to paragraph

- 1 "a", the treasurer of state shall pay remaining moneys to the
- $\ensuremath{\mathbf{2}}$ insurer named in relation to the claim from which the credits
- 3 arose.
- 4 c. If an employer or insurer cannot be paid pursuant
- 5 to paragraphs "a" and "b", the treasurer of state shall pay
- 6 remaining moneys to the employee's beneficiaries.
- 7 d. If the employee did not designate any beneficiaries,
- 8 remaining moneys shall be paid to the employee's estate.
- 9 4. The labor commissioner and the commissioner of
- 10 insurance may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A to implement
- 11 this section. Such rules may include guidelines for which
- 12 prosthetics suppliers may provide a repair or replacement
- 13 for a prosthetic device, the form a voucher must take, and
- 14 information in addition to content described in subsection 1,
- 15 paragraph "c", that must appear on a voucher.>
- 2. By renumbering as necessary.